

Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-06

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R 101655Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3942

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 2554

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

FOR ARA ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

EO: 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD PFOR CO
SUBJ: LIEVANO COMMENTS AGAIN ON TRADE AND NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE
PROPOSAL MADE DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: BOGOTA 2128

1. A SPATE OF PRESS STORIES APPEARED LOCALLY YESTERDAY AND TODAY (AND HAVE NOW BEEN PICKED UP BY WIRE SERVICES) QUOTING LIEVANO AS SAYING THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER IN WHICH THE LATTER STATED HE WELCOMED THE COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL FOR TRADE STIMULATION AS ONE FOCUS FOR US-LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH NO TEXT HAS BEEN RELEASED, LIEVANO WAS ALSO QUOTED AS STATING THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD EACH SET UP A TASK FORCE FOR INTERNAL STUDY OF THE PROPOSALS; TO CARRY ON CONSULTATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS, AND TO PREPARE PROPOSALS FOR THE OASGA THIS JUNE.

2. THE LETTER REFERRED TO IS APPARENTLY THE SECRETARY'S THANK YOU LETTER WHICH WE RECEIVED FOR TRANSMITTAL FROM S/S-I, ALONG WITH A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ (S/S TRANSMITTAL SLIP DATED 2/26/76 REG. NO. 2708963). THE LETTERS WERE RECEIVED SEALED WITH NO COURTESY COPY. IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE TEXT BY CABLE.

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3. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH LIEVANO TOLD ME HE DID NOT WANT TO TOOT HIS HORN TOO LOUDLY AND PROVOKE RESISTANCE TO A "LIEVANO PLAN" (REFTEL), HE IS NOT SHY ABOUT TAKING CREDIT DOMESTICALLY. POLITICALLY AMBITIOUS, LIEVANO FINDS IT VERY USEFUL DOMESTICALLY TO PROJECT THE IMAGE OF PROPOSING AN INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE WHICH THE SECRETARY PRAISES. OF MORE INTEREST TO US IS THAT, INTENDED OR NOT, LOCAL EXPECTATIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED THAT SOMETHING ALONG THESE LINES WILL HAPPEN IN SANTIAGO--AND SOMETHING FAVORABLE TO COLOMBIA.

VAKY

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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